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Docket No. 62894(71589)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Rioux et al.

Confirmation No.: 1401

U.S.S.N.: 09/935,487

Art Unit: 3738

FILED: August 23, 2001

Examiner: B. Pellegrino

FOR: MAINTAINING AN OPEN PASSAGEWAY THROUGH A BODY LUMEN

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3738**

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

This is a response to the final Office action mailed February 15, 2005.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

A **Conclusion** begins on page 9.

Certificate of Express Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. **EV492344748US**, in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: April 15, 2005

Signature:

Lakeisha Bryant (Lakeisha Bryant)